

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A system, comprising:
  - a processor; and
  - 5 a memory comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to implement a zone visualization mechanism configured to:
    - obtain zoning information for a plurality of Storage Area Network (SAN) objects in a SAN, wherein the SAN comprises one or more host systems, one or more storage devices, and one or more fabrics; and
    - 10 in response to selecting a particular SAN object in the SAN, display zoning information for the selected SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member.
2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the displayed zoning information indicates logical zone membership for the selected SAN object.
- 20 3. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the displayed zoning information further indicates one or more zone aliases of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a logical or physical member.
4. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the displayed zoning information for each zone of which the selected SAN object is a member further indicates another SAN object through which the selected SAN object is a member of the zone.
- 25 5. The system as recited in claim 4, wherein the indicated other SAN object is user-selectable to display zoning information for the other SAN object, wherein the zoning

information for the other SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the other SAN object is a member.

6. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the indicated one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member is user-selectable to display zone-centric information for the selected zone, wherein the zone-centric information indicates one or more SAN objects that are members of the zone and relationships among the one or more SAN objects that are members of the zone.
- 10 7. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the indicated one or more other SAN objects that are members of the zone are user-selectable to display zoning information for the one or more other SAN objects, wherein the zoning information for each of the one or more other SAN objects indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the SAN object is a member.
- 15 8. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the zone visualization mechanism is further configured to display the zone-centric information for the selected zone in graphical format or textual format.
- 20 9. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the zone visualization mechanism is further configured to display the zoning information for the selected SAN object in the SAN in graphical format or textual format.
10. A storage area network (SAN), comprising:  
25       one or more host systems;  
          one or more storage devices;  
          a SAN fabric for coupling the host systems to the storage devices;  
          a system configured to implement a zone visualization mechanism, wherein the zone visualization mechanism is configured to:  
30       obtain zoning information for a plurality of SAN objects in the SAN; and

in response to selecting a particular SAN object in the SAN, display zoning information for the selected SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member.

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11. The SAN as recited in claim 10, wherein the displayed zoning information indicates logical zone membership for the selected SAN object.

10 12. The SAN as recited in claim 10, wherein the displayed zoning information further indicates one or more zone aliases of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a logical or physical member.

15 13. The SAN as recited in claim 10, wherein the displayed zoning information for each zone of which the selected SAN object is a member further indicates another SAN object through which the selected SAN object is a member of the zone.

20 14. The SAN as recited in claim 13, wherein the indicated other SAN object is user-selectable to display zoning information for the other SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the other SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the other SAN object is a member.

25 15. The SAN as recited in claim 10, wherein each of the indicated one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member is user-selectable to display zone-centric information for the selected zone, wherein the zone-centric information indicates one or more SAN objects that are members of the zone and relationships among the one or more SAN objects that are members of the zone.

30 16. The SAN as recited in claim 15, wherein the indicated one or more other SAN objects that are members of the zone are user-selectable to display zoning information for

the one or more other SAN objects, wherein the zoning information for each of the one or more other SAN objects indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the SAN object is a member.

5      17.     The SAN as recited in claim 15, wherein the zone visualization mechanism is further configured to display the zone-centric information for the selected zone in graphical format or textual format.

10     18.     The SAN as recited in claim 10, wherein the zone visualization mechanism is further configured to display the zoning information for the selected SAN object in the SAN in graphical format or textual format.

19.     A system, comprising:

15        means for obtaining zoning information for a plurality of Storage Area Network (SAN) objects in a SAN, wherein the SAN comprises one or more host systems, one or more storage devices, and one or more fabrics; and  
means for displaying zoning information for a selected SAN object in the SAN in response to selecting the object, wherein the zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member.

20.     The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the displayed zoning information indicates logical zone membership for the selected SAN object.

25     21.     The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the displayed zoning information for each zone of which the selected SAN object is a member further indicates another SAN object through which the selected SAN object is connected to the zone, and wherein the system further comprises means for displaying zoning information for the other SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the other SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the other SAN object is a member.

22. The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising means for displaying zone-centric information for the indicated one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member, wherein the zone-centric information for a zone indicates one or  
5 more SAN objects that are members of the zone and relationships among the one or more SAN objects that are members of the zone.

23. A method, comprising:

obtaining zoning information for a plurality of Storage Area Network (SAN)  
10 objects in a SAN, wherein the SAN comprises one or more host systems, one or more storage devices, and one or more fabrics; and  
displaying zoning information for a selected SAN object in the SAN in response  
to selecting the SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the  
15 selected SAN object is a member.

24. The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the displayed zoning information indicates logical zone membership for the selected SAN object.

20 25. The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the displayed zoning information further indicates one or more zone aliases of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a logical or physical member.

26. The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the displayed zoning information for  
25 each zone of which the selected SAN object is a member further indicates another SAN object through which the selected SAN object is a member of the zone.

27. The method as recited in claim 26, further comprising:

accepting user input selecting the indicated other SAN object; and

displaying zoning information for the other SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the other SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the other SAN object is a member.

5      28.     The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:  
accepting user input selecting one of the indicated one or more zones of the SAN  
of which the selected SAN object is a member; and  
displaying zone-centric information for the selected zone, wherein the zone-  
centric information indicates one or more SAN objects that are members  
10        of the zone and relationships among the one or more SAN objects that are  
members of the zone.

29.     The method as recited in claim 28, further comprising:  
accepting user input selecting one of the one or more other SAN objects that are  
15        members of the zone; and  
displaying zoning information for the one or more other SAN objects, wherein the  
zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more  
zones of the SAN of which the SAN object is a member.

20      30.     The method as recited in claim 28, further comprising displaying the zone-centric  
information for the selected zone in one of graphical format or textual format.

31.     The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising displaying the zoning  
information for the selected SAN object in the SAN in one of graphical format or textual  
25        format.

32.     A computer-accessible medium comprising program instructions, wherein the  
program instructions are configured to implement:

obtaining zoning information for a plurality of Storage Area Network (SAN) objects in a SAN, wherein the SAN comprises one or more host systems, one or more storage devices, and one or more fabrics; and  
5 displaying zoning information for a selected SAN object in the SAN in response to selecting the SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a member.

10 33. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the displayed zoning information indicates logical zone membership for the selected SAN object.

15 34. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the displayed zoning information further indicates one or more zone aliases of the SAN of which the selected SAN object is a logical or physical member.

20 35. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the displayed zoning information for each zone of which the selected SAN object is a member further indicates another SAN object through which the selected SAN object is a member of the zone.

25 36. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 35, wherein the program instructions are further configured to implement:

accepting user input selecting the indicated other SAN object; and  
displaying zoning information for the other SAN object, wherein the zoning information for the other SAN object indicates one or more zones of the SAN of which the other SAN object is a member.

37. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the program instructions are further configured to implement:

accepting user input selecting one of the indicated one or more zones of the SAN  
of which the selected SAN object is a member; and  
displaying zone-centric information for the selected zone, wherein the zone-  
centric information indicates one or more SAN objects that are members  
5 of the zone and relationships among the one or more SAN objects that are  
members of the zone.

38. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 37, wherein the program  
instructions are further configured to implement:

10 accepting user input selecting one of the one or more other SAN objects that are  
members of the zone; and  
displaying zoning information for the one or more other SAN objects, wherein the  
zoning information for the selected SAN object indicates one or more  
zones of the SAN of which the SAN object is a member.

15 39. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 37, wherein the program  
instructions are further configured to implement displaying the zone-centric information  
for the selected zone in one of graphical format or textual format.

20 40. The computer-accessible medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the program  
instructions are further configured to implement displaying the zoning information for the  
selected SAN object in the SAN in one of graphical format or textual format.